

ORIGINAL

Experimental Lease Application - Upper Sheepscot River - Newcastle, Maine  
Maine Oyster, Inc.

C: APPLICATION COVER SHEET FOR AN EXPERIMENTAL LEASE

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FEB 17 2016

Maine Department of  
Marine Resources

Complete 4-15-16

Name: Maine Oyster, Inc. - Contact Names: Eric Horne & Valy Steverlynck

Address: 62 Pine Street

City: Freeport

County: Cumberland

State, zip: Maine, 04032

Telephone: business 221-5172 home 221-5172 cell 522-1520

Email address: ericLhorne@hotmail.com

Location of lease site: town \_\_\_\_\_ county \_\_\_\_\_ waterbody \_\_\_\_\_  
Newcastle Lincoln Upper Sheepscot River

Additional description: South of Lehman Island  
(e.g. south of B Island)

Total acreage requested (4-acre maximum): 3.93 acres (subject to DMR review)

Growing Area #: 21 - A Water Quality Classification: Approved

Type of culture (circle): Bottom (no gear) Suspended (gear in the water and/or on the bottom) Net Pen (finfish)

Name of species to be cultivated, common and scientific names:

American Oysters *Crassostrea virginica*

Name and address of the source of seed stock, juveniles, smolts, etc., to be cultivated:

Muscongus Bay Aquaculture, Inc.  
Post Office Box 158  
Bremen, Maine 04551  
(207) 529-4100

Amount of application fee enclosed: \$100.00  
(\$100 payable to: Treasurer, State of Maine)

I hereby state that the information included in this application is true and correct and that I have read and understand the requirements of the Department's rules governing aquaculture.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 2/11/16

18 U.S.C. Section 1001 provides that: Whoever, in any manner within the jurisdiction of any department or agency of the United States knowingly and willfully falsifies, conceals, or covers up any trick, scheme, or disguises a material fact or makes any false, fictitious or fraudulent statements or representations or makes or uses any false writing or document knowing same to contain any false, fictitious or fraudulent statements or entry, shall be fined not more than \$10,000 or imprisoned not more than five years or both.

**D: EXPERIMENTAL LEASE APPLICATION INFORMATION**

**1. Location of Proposed Lease.**

**A. Vicinity Map.**

**Appendix 1--** See attached USGS topographical map, showing lease boundaries, mean high/low waters & arrow indicating true north.

**B. Boundary Description**

See attached drawing of the proposed lease boundaries and coordinates showing sides, directions, distances and coordinates (**Appendix 2**). Boundaries and coordinates were derived using GoogleEarth.

1) Coordinate Description (Also Appendix 2).

**Datum information:**

Source Scale: 1:40,000  
Horizontal Datum: WGS-84  
Correction Date: 02-10-1999

**2. Land Owners**

See attached certified tax maps (**Appendix 3**) as well as a certified list of the riparian owners (**Appendix 4**) within 1,000 feet of the proposed lease. Access to the site will be via boat so no riparian land will be needed to access the lease site.

**3. Research Program and Operation**

- A. The purpose and design of the study** – We propose to plant this area with American Oysters for the purposes of expanding our current commercial production.
- B. Species:** American Oysters – *Crassostrea virginica*  
**Amount:** Up to 2.6m animals  
**Source of the organisms to be grown:** Muscongus Bay Aquaculture – Bremen, Maine
- C. Culture/Harvesting Techniques:** Bottom Culture: Oysters would be broad-cast on the bottom (no structures used) and then harvested with a skiff drawn drag.
- D. The expected length of the study:** 3 years
- E. Research Type:** Commercial

**4. Existing Uses**

There is some boat traffic in the area: sport fishermen, hunters, wormers, clammers, recreational boaters, and kayakers. Boat traffic in the vicinity of the proposed site moves in a northwest/southeast direction. Volume is extremely light. This site would not impede the progress of boat traffic in the area. In the sixteen years, we have held experimental leases, standard leases, and LPAs in this general area we have not had problems of any kind.

**Additional information, Item 3.C, Culture/Harvesting Techniques:**

- **Drag dimensions:**  
Cutting bar 43" (wide) x 23" (at tallest point - it's an A-Frame) x 10" (deep). 'Catch bag' is about 18" deep.
- **Schedule:**  
During harvest season (April thru December), we plan to frequent the site 1x per week. Seeding would take place in the fall - usually to coincide with harvest trips (1x/week). We do not envision being on the site more than 2x per week in any given month. Our activities would be conducted during daylight hours.

**Additional information, Item 4, Existing Uses:**

- **Existing uses:**  
There is a private dock about 800' to the east of the proposed site.



In our experience, we have not witnessed commercial fishing activity within the boundaries of the proposed lease site – though our activities would not exclude nor inhibit lobstering or angling in the area of the lease.

5. **Exclusive Use**

We would not exclude most uses of the area. We would ask that harvesting of our shellfish not be allowed in any form.

6. **Description of the Proposed Lease Site**

A. **Environmental Characterization:**

1. **Bottom characteristics:** firm with small stone and shell fragments

2. **Depths:** Low tide: 6' (MLW); High tide: 15'

3. **Topography:** There are tidal flats to the northeast and southwest of the site.

4. **Plants and animals by species or common names:** We observed seaweed (*Enteromorpha*) growing on the rocks in the area. Some shell fragments. Green crabs - very common (*Carcinus maenas*) and rock crabs (*Cancer irroratus*). Uplands have mostly white pine, birch and some oak stands.

5. **Approximate current speed and direction:** Current runs in a north/south direction at +/-1.5 knot during maximum ebb/flow.

6. **General shoreline and upland characteristics:** The upland area is heavily wooded.

7. **Aquatic vegetation:** We observed very little aquatic vegetation in the area of the proposed area. There are no eelgrass beds in the proposed lease area.

B. **Environmental Impact.**

We do not feel our activities will affect the physical and ecological environment in and around the lease site.

**Shellfish growing area classification:** Attached as **Appendix 5** is a map showing the DMR Public Health Division's closure lines. The proposed area is in **Approved** waters.

7. **Structures**

Not applicable – no structures to be used.

8. **Discharge**

Not applicable – no discharge.

9. **Marking**

Corners to be marked with 7.5" plastic buoys marked: "SEA FARM". Corner markers would be held in place with cement or small mushroom anchors.

**10. Escrow Account or Performance Bond and Rental Fee**

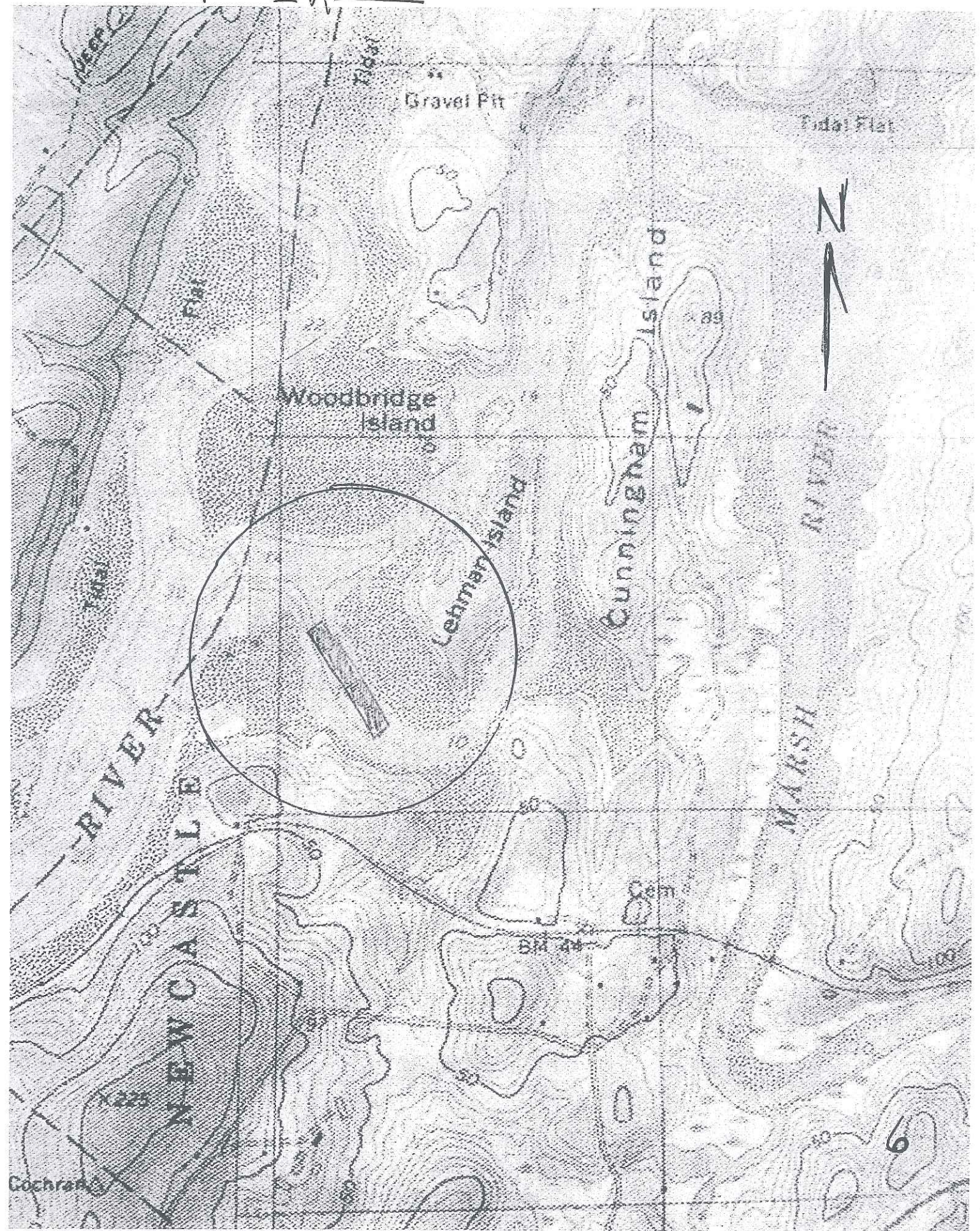
We have read MDMR Aquaculture Regulations 2.40 and understand that there are no bond requirements for the proposed activity. (No discharge, no structure).

### **Appendices**

- Appendix 1:** Vicinity Map (1 pg)
- Appendices 2:** USGS Enlargement & Lease Boundary Description/Coordinates (2 pgs)
- Appendix 3:** Tax Maps #002 & #004 – Town of Newcastle (2 pgs)
- Appendix 4:** Riparian Owner list within 1,000' of proposed site (1 pg)
- Appendix 5:** MDMR Public Health Division Water Quality Map (1 pg)



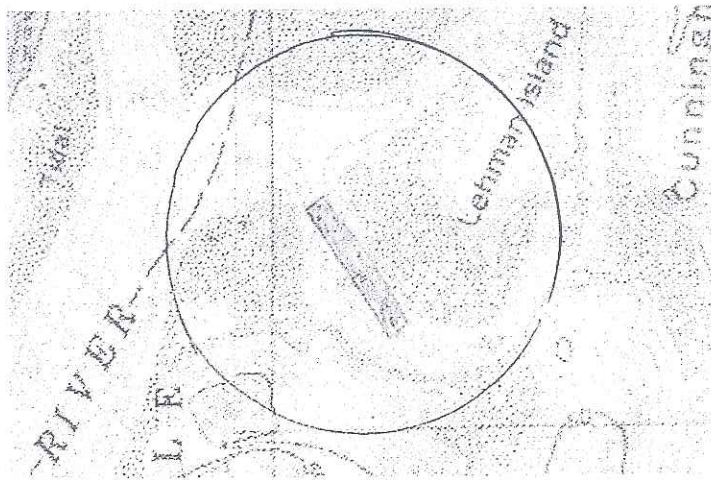
# Vicinity Map - Appendix 1



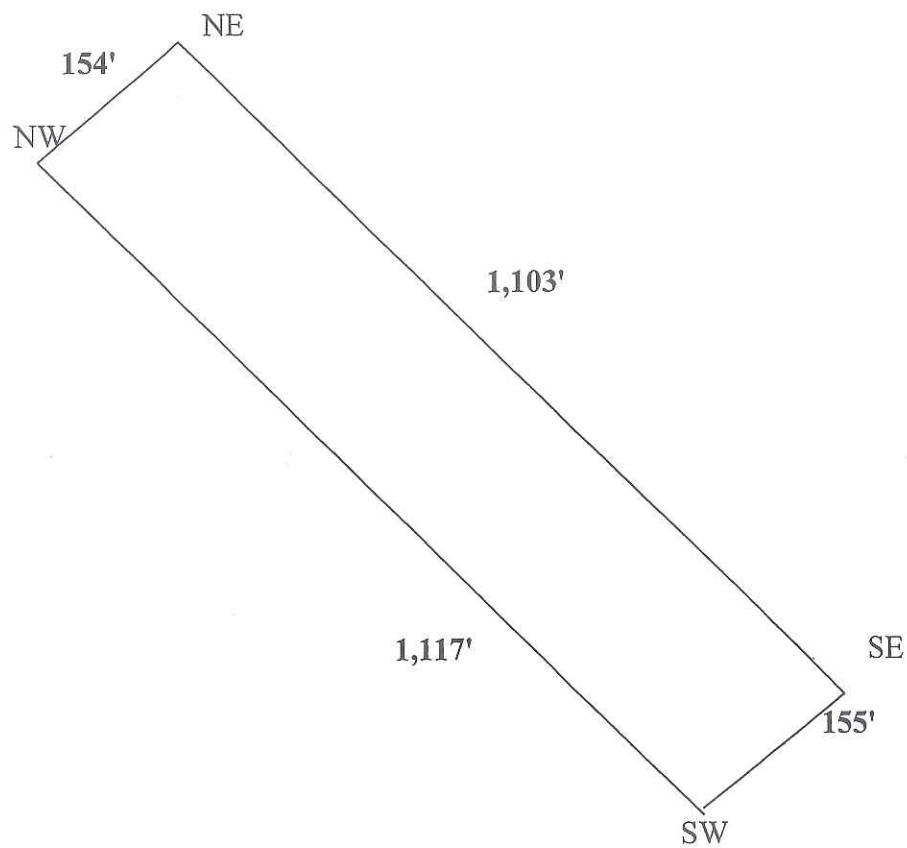


**Appendices 2:** USGS Enlargement & Lease Boundary Description

USGS Map Enlargement with lease boundaries shown.



Drawing of the proposed lease boundaries showing sides, distances.





## Appendix 2 cont.

GPS Coordinates of proposed site corners:

NE:	44° 1.446'	N
	69° 37.292'	W
SE:	44° 1.286'	N
	69° 37.175'	W
SW:	44° 1.273'	N
	69° 37.205'	W
NW:	44° 1.436'	N
	69° 37.324'	W



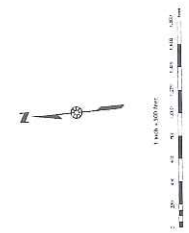


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[illegible]

**DISCLAIMER:** This map is intended for property tax assessment purposes only. The information contained on this map is based upon records deeds, claim, and other public sources. These primary sources should be consulted to verify lot and acreage. In the primary sources, the tax map should be considered to be a representation of the editor's judgment, based upon the available evidence. The map may not be legal evidence of size, shape, location, or numbering of real estate, roads, or municipal boundaries.



Northern Geomantics, Inc.  
 9250 16th Avenue, Suite 810, #228  
 Berkeley, CA 94709  
 415/841-1228  
 info@northerngeomantics.com  
 www.northerngeomantics.com

10

MAP 4

This map is certified  
to be an accurate  
copy of the information  
maintained by the municipality.

Map 4

Proposed lease site (not to exact scale)

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Maine Department of  
Marine Resources

APPENDIX 4

CERTIFIED LANDOWNER LIST

Newcastle, Maine

February 11, 2016

Map - Lot #	Name	Address
2 - 4	SHERMAN, PETER M.	P.O. BOX 222 EAST BOOTHBAY, ME 04544 ✓
2 - 5	COBURN, RUTH & PERKINS, DANIEL	14 HIGH STREET APT 102 SACO ME 04072-1124 ✓
2 - 6	LAURENCELL, SUZANNE	SUZANNE R. LAURENCELL REVOCABLE TRUST 605 15TH AVE NE ST. PETERSBURG FL 33704 ✓
2 - 7A	James T. & Patricia B. Hudson	284 Station Road ✓ Newcastle, ME 04553
4 - 15	George & Elaine Keyes	579 BREMEN RD WALDOBORO ME 04572 ✓

*This list is CERTIFIED as being an accurate copy of the information maintained by the municipality.*

February 16, 2016 I, Town Clerk, Dawn M Burns do verify the above 5 addresses are the addresses we have on file to send their tax bills.



Dawn M Burns



April 29, 2015



# Maine Department of Marine Resources

Pollution Area No. 21-A

Upper Sheepscot River and Tributaries (Wiscasset, Alna, Newcastle)

